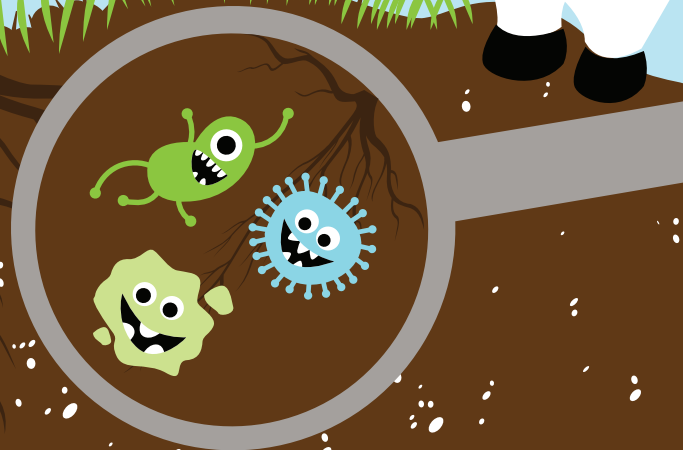
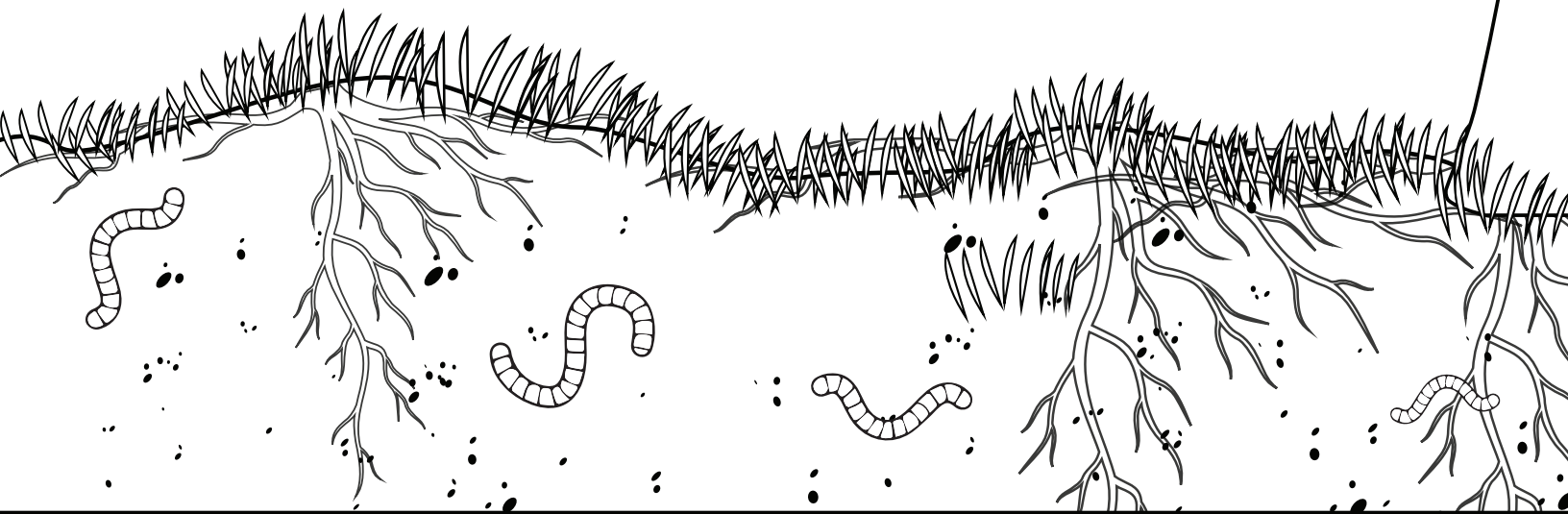




We Are 4 the Soil!



Soil is more than just the dirt we see on the ground. It's a special place where lots of living things, like helpful bugs and fungus make their home. Soil is really important because it helps things grow and it also affects the world around us in many different ways!

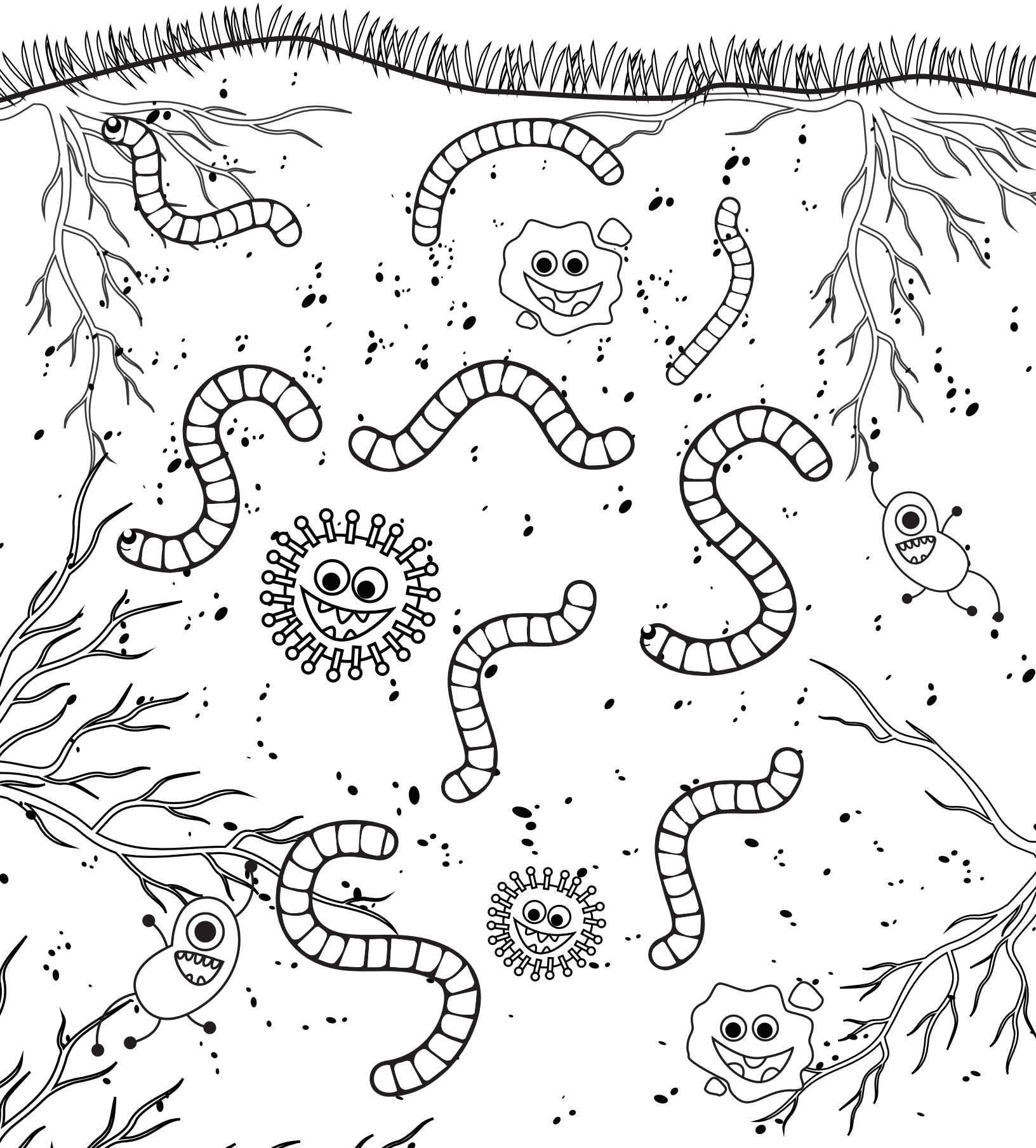


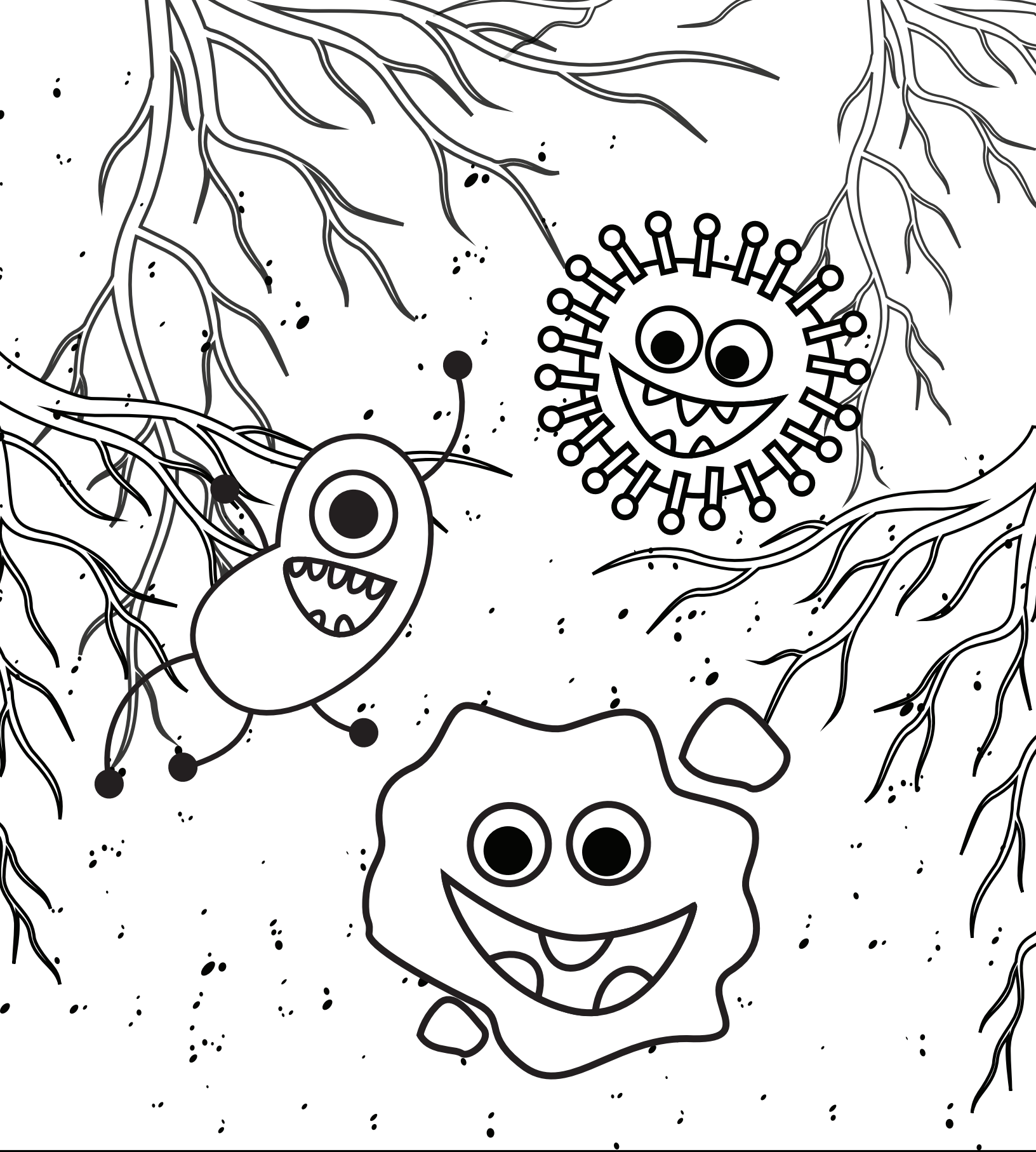
Soil principle 1. Keep Soil Covered

When we put something like leaves, grass, or wood chips on top of the soil, it can help protect the soil from getting washed away by things like rain or wind. This also helps keep the soil at a good temperature and lets rainwater soak into the ground more slowly so it doesn't all just flow away.

Soil principle 2. Minimize Soil Disturbance

A second way we can take care of the soil is to not disturb it through digging too much and uncovering it. By not disturbing the soil physically or chemically, we provide a healthy place for plants to grow and tiny beneficial insects to thrive.



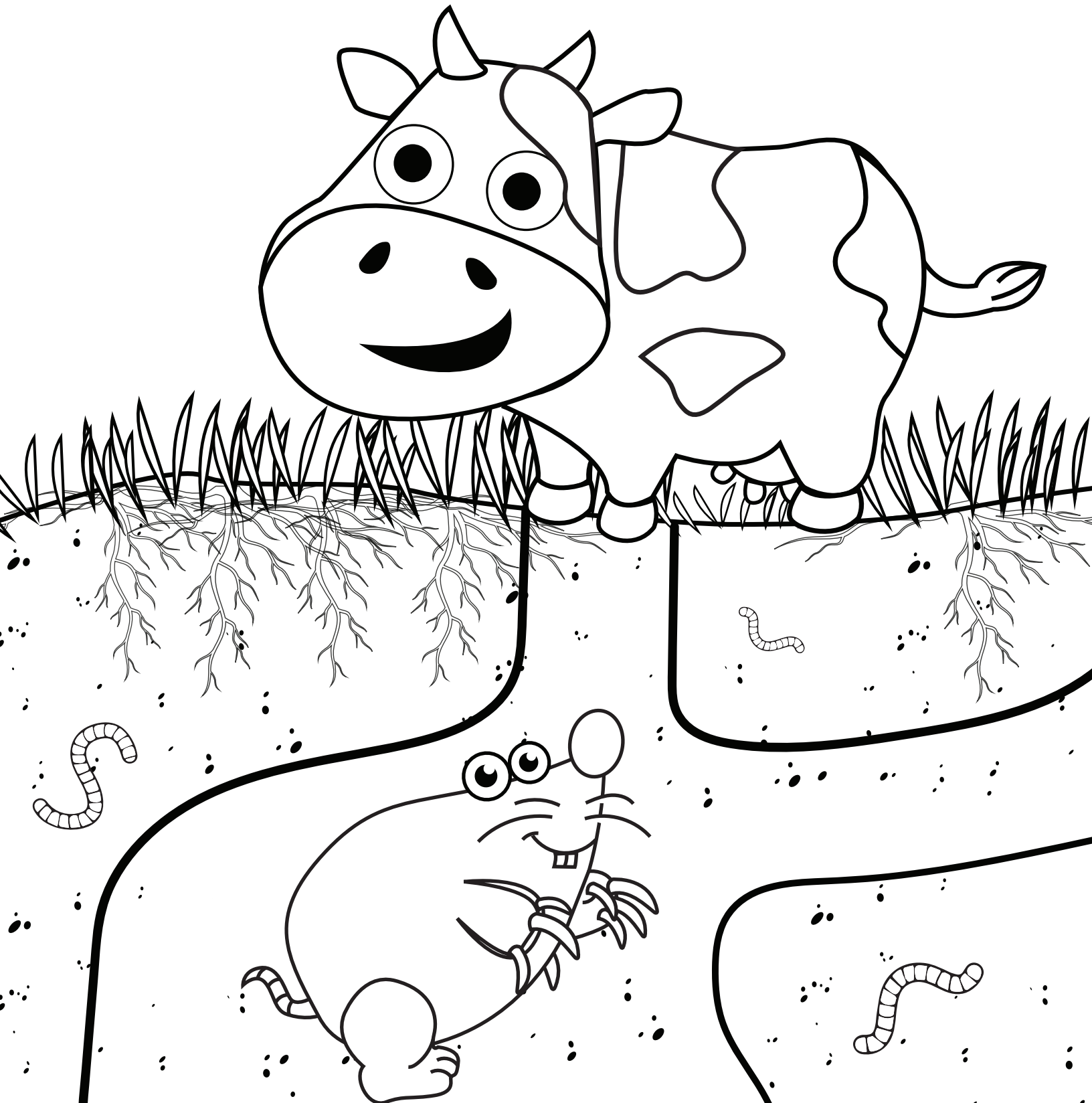


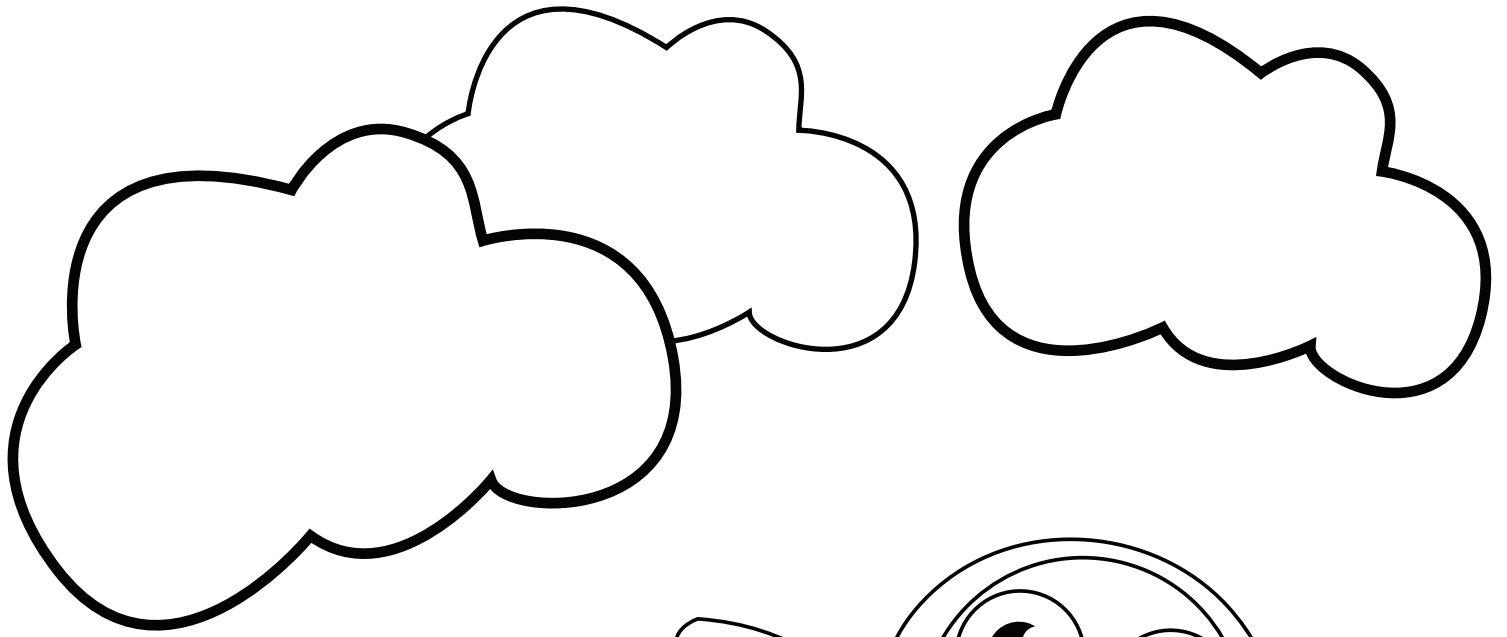
Soil principle 3. Maximize Living Roots

Living roots provide sugars, carbohydrates, and nutrients to the soil throughout the year so the soil can provide what nutrients and food that the plant needs to thrive. Living roots keep soil strong, stable, and healthy so the soil and everyone benefits.

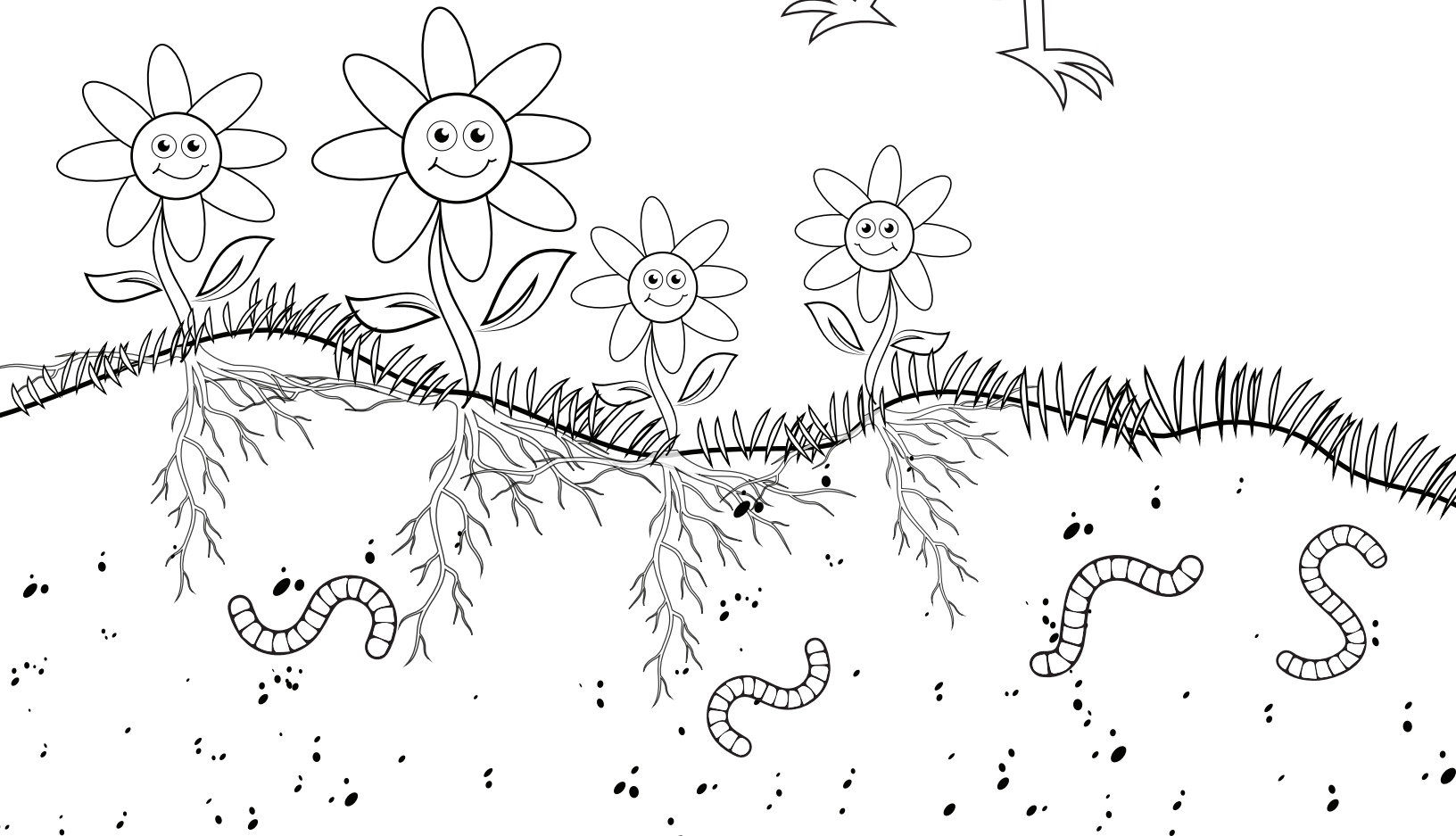
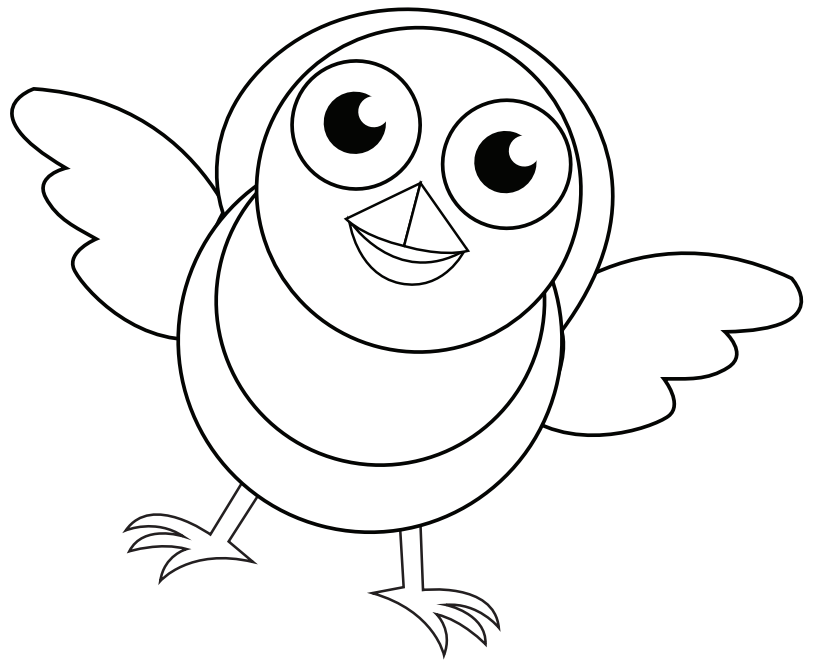
Soil principle 4. Energize with Diversity

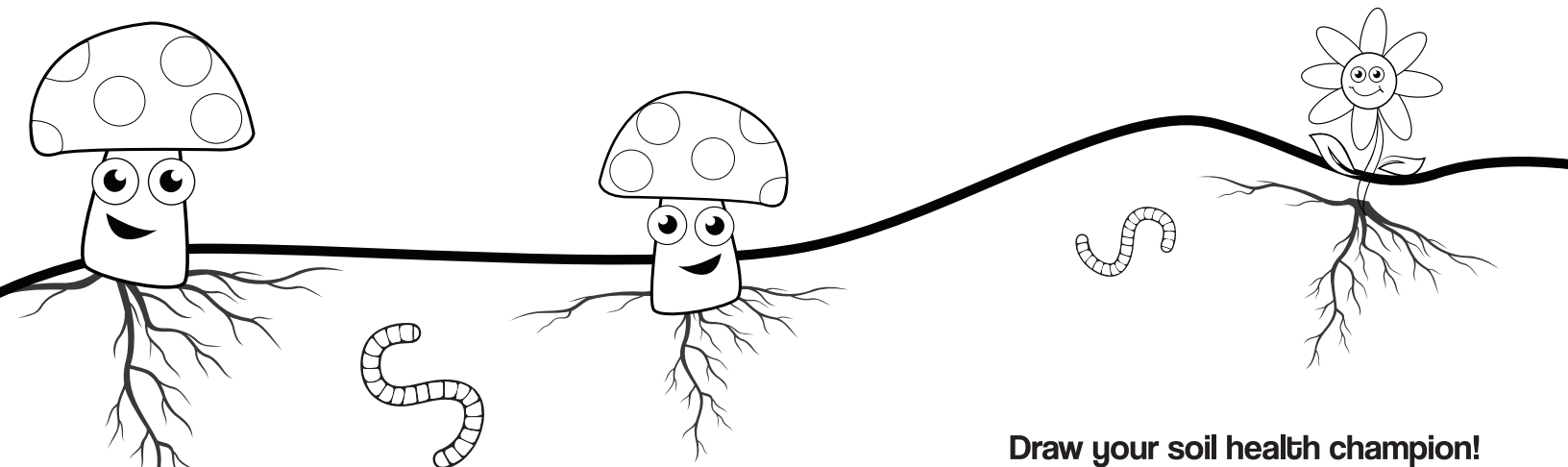
Plants and animals - like wildflowers, cows, and birds - help the soil thrive. Animal's poop has healthy nutrients for the soil. Different plants provide special nutrients to make the soil healthy. Even small critters like worms, fungus, and bacteria can help us take care of the soil.



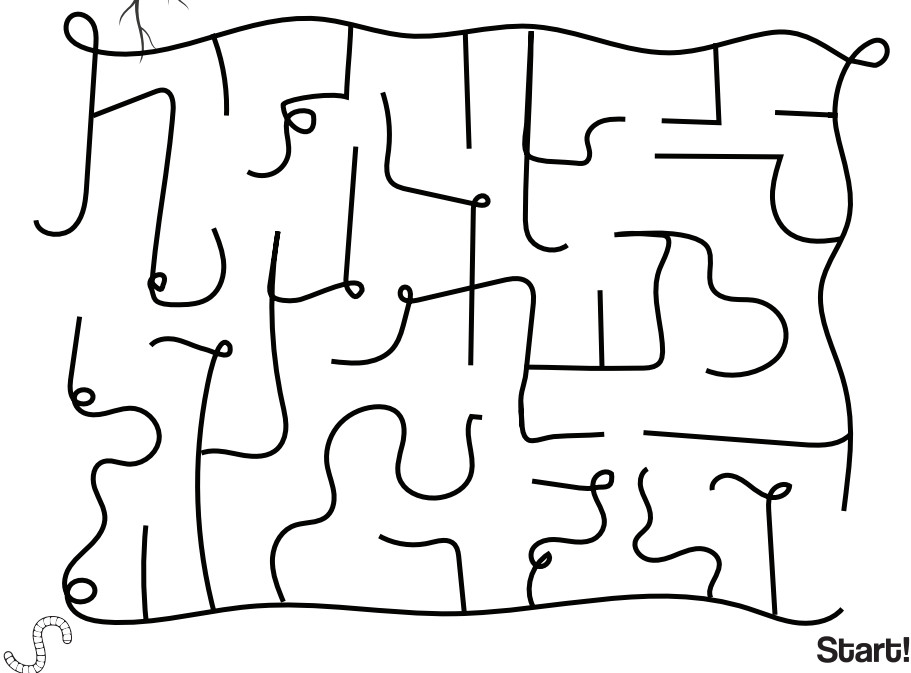
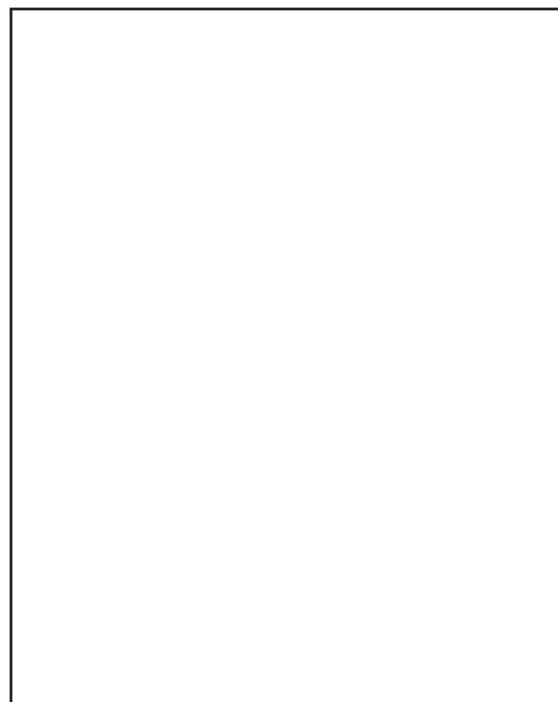


We Are
4 the Soil!



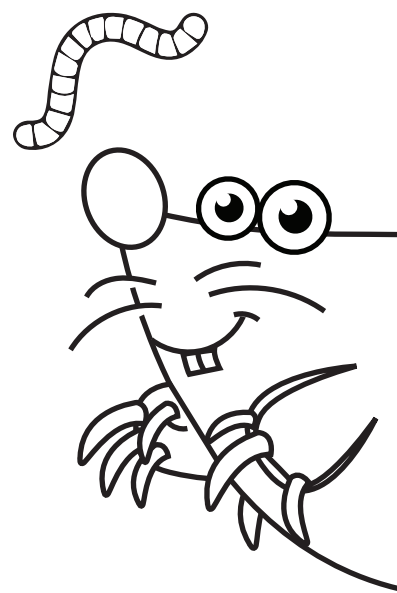


Draw your soil health champion!



D	T	W	W	E	Y	I	G	I	T	I	G	O	E
C	R	T	R	V	T	L	I	V	I	N	G	S	A
T	R	I	O	W	I	I	Y	M	R	Y	A	S	R
R	L	N	R	C	S	F	T	I	Y	C	O	I	F
O	I	R	E	I	R	M	O	C	O	E	M	W	O
W	P	A	V	W	E	R	R	R	B	O	R	A	O
O	O	R	O	W	V	V	R	O	T	R	L	P	M
O	M	R	C	E	I	R	E	B	M	O	I	I	D
Y	L	T	M	O	D	O	M	E	T	E	F	O	C
O	C	R	O	P	F	O	R	A	G	E	O	R	E
I	G	S	E	W	I	T	G	F	R	F	R	O	O
O	W	A	T	E	R	S	R	O	S	I	O	S	A
M	T	T	L	M	L	L	I	O	S	B	L	R	Y
D	C	O	S	B	O	E	T	V	O	R	M	V	F

forage
diversity
food
crop
cover
living
soil
microbe
worm
roots
water



how many worms can you find on this page?

4thesoil.org



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